

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	K.. BROWN et al.	Examiner	Robert M. Timblin
Serial No.	10/675,265	Group Art Unit	2167
Filed	September 29, 2003	Docket No.	SVL920030045US1
TITLE	METHOD, SYSTEM, AND PROGRAM FOR PREDICATE PROCESSING BY ITERATOR FUNCTIONS		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted through the USPTO EFS-Web system over the Internet to Jeffrey A. Gaffin of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on June 29, 2006.

/Janaki K. Davda/
Janaki K. Davda

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner:

A telephone interview was held between Examiners Wong and Timblin and Applicants' representative, Janaki K. Davda, on Thursday, June 29, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. (EST).

During the telephone interview, claims 1, 6, and 12, as amended, were discussed with reference to the Krishna patent (U.S. Patent No. 5,412,804). No agreement was reached.

In particular, Applicants' representative indicated that the claims are directed to new iterator function processing. In the prior art, as described in Applicants' Background of the Invention, a conventional iterator function receives a set of arguments and *returns a table* to the SQL statement that invokes the function (e.g., Specification, page 1, paragraph 4). In particular, *the iterator function creates a virtual table with a result set, and then the qualification (i.e., predicate) is applied to the virtual table to filter rows* of data in the virtual table (e.g., Specification, page 3, paragraph 9). In many cases, only a small percentage of rows of data in the virtual table remain after the qualification is applied, but, unfortunately, because the qualification is applied after the rows of data are retrieved for the result set, many rows of data are unnecessarily retrieved for the virtual table (e.g., Specification, page 3, paragraph 9). On the other hand, the claims are directed to the iterator function processing predicates and returning a row of data at a time.

FIG. 8 of the Krishna patent was discussed. FIG. 8 describes predicate processing, but not iterator function processing that includes predicate processing.

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